



LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SCOTT J. SVONKIN

President, Board of Trustees

October 12, 2015

Chairman Tom Wheeler
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: FCC MB Docket No. 15-149
Charter Communications - Time Warner Cable - Bright House Networks

Dear Mr. Wheeler:

I currently serve as President of the Board of Trustees, Los Angeles Community College District*. Our nine community colleges offer educational opportunities to over 135,000 students in 40 cities and communities, covering an area of more than 882 square miles. We proudly educate an exceptionally diverse student body – over 55% are Latino, nearly 16% are Anglo, 14% are African American and 12.5% are Asian American. Almost 21% are Non-Native English speakers and over 51% fall below the poverty line. Stated another way, LACCD educates almost three times as many Latino students and nearly four times as many African-American students as all of the University of California campuses combined. 80% of LACCD students are from underserved populations.

Given the demographics of our district, we have been working mightily to close the digital divide in our communities. We have come to understand how critical reliable broadband service is for our children, our teens and young adults, our adults and senior citizens. Every family needs broadband access – for students at all levels of education to complete their homework, for adults to compete in an increasingly competitive job market.

I believe that New Charter, which brings together Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks, will deliver this vital broadband access. I understand that New Charter's low-income broadband program will offer qualified customers fast broadband speeds at a reduced rate. With 60 mbps speed, New Charter's broadband will be faster than any comparable entry-level. This program will offer tremendous benefits to so many of the residents of the Los Angeles Community College District and look forward to its rapid adoption.

I believe in New Charter because I have worked closely with Charter in the past and believe in their commitment to communities. For several years, I have been participating on its public affairs television show *Charter Local Edition*, hosted by Brad Pomerance. I have not found another outlet in the Los Angeles region that offers elected officials like myself the ability to talk to constituents in an extended fashion on television like Charter does with its *Charter Local Edition*. I am excited to continue working on the program under New Charter and am glad that other communities throughout California will benefit from *Charter Local Edition* as I have over these past several years.

I am looking forward to New Charter's impact on the Los Angeles Community College District and the State of California and I ask you to approve the merger.

Sincerely,

Scott Svonkin
President of the Board